

**House Resolution**

**No. 38**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Quirk-Silva**

April 21, 2014

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House Resolution No. 38—Relative to Child Abuse Prevention Month.

- 1 WHEREAS, Child abuse and neglect continue to pose serious  
2 threats to our nation’s children; and  
3 WHEREAS, In 2010, according to the Center for Social Services  
4 Research at the University of California, Berkeley, approximately  
5 89,000 children in California were found to be victims of abuse  
6 or neglect; and  
7 WHEREAS, In 2010, according to the United States Department  
8 of Health and Human Services, 120 children in California died as  
9 a result of child abuse and neglect; and  
10 WHEREAS, Children who have been abused or neglected have  
11 a higher risk of developing various health problems as adults,  
12 including alcoholism, depression, drug abuse, eating disorders,  
13 obesity, suicide, and certain chronic diseases; and  
14 WHEREAS, California’s children deserve to grow up in a safe  
15 and nurturing environment free from fear, abuse, and neglect; and  
16 WHEREAS, Prevention of child abuse and neglect depends on  
17 the involvement of people throughout the community; and  
18 WHEREAS, Child abuse and neglect have long-term economic  
19 and societal costs; and  
20 WHEREAS, Providing community-based prevention services  
21 to families whose children may be at risk of child abuse or neglect  
22 is less costly than addressing the emotional and physical damage  
23 that can result from child abuse and neglect; and

1 WHEREAS, Providing community-based prevention services  
2 to those families can help avoid the costs of protective services,  
3 law enforcement, the judicial system, foster care, and the treatment  
4 of adults recovering from abuse as children; and

5 WHEREAS, Victims of child abuse, whether the abuse is  
6 physical, sexual, or emotional, or any combination of these, should  
7 have access to a safe place to live, appropriate medical care, and  
8 counseling or mental health services; and

9 WHEREAS, In recent years, Prevent Child Abuse America, the  
10 Child Abuse Prevention Center, and other groups have organized  
11 Blue Ribbon Campaigns in order to increase public awareness of  
12 child abuse and to promote ways to prevent child abuse; and

13 WHEREAS, Each year, the President of the United States issues  
14 a proclamation announcing April as National Child Abuse  
15 Prevention Month; and

16 WHEREAS, Blue ribbons are displayed to increase the  
17 awareness of child abuse and to focus on the positive message of  
18 preventing child abuse and neglect by supporting families and  
19 strengthening communities during Child Abuse Prevention Month;  
20 now, therefore, be it

21 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That the  
22 Assembly recognizes the month of April 2014 as Child Abuse  
23 Prevention Month to support youth-serving child abuse prevention  
24 activities in the communities and schools during the month and  
25 throughout the year; and be it further

26 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
27 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.